United Nations A/HRC/39/NGO/14

General Assembly

Distr.: General
29 August 2018

English only

Human Rights Council
Thirty-ninth session
10-28 September 2018
Agenda item 3
Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development

Written statement* submitted by the Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[14 August 2018]

* Issued as received, in the language(s) of submission only.

GE.18-14206(E)
1814206

Please recycle

Lebanese prisons: torture & bed health situation

The Lebanese prisons need everything, and suffer from overcrowding, slow trials and bad health situation. It is not surprising to say that most of the prisons in government institutions do not meet the international standards of prisons.

There are 6429 prisoners in Lebanon's prisons to date, and during the visits done by the Center in 2017-2018 to a number of prisons, we find the following: For example, in Aley prison 92 prisoners, 21sentenced and 71 detainees, Baalbeck prison: 83 prisoners,31 sentenced and 52 detainees, Nabatiyeh: Number of prisoners 139,40 sentenced, 99detainedand the number of rooms 2, Berber Khazen prison, number of female prisoners 58, 16 sentenced , 42 detained; Zahle prison for men, it is build for 350 prisoners but there is 790 prisoners.

Is it reasonable for a paper to keep the prisoner imprisoned or for financial aids of 40 thousand Lebanese liras or not received the summary of his rule and the absence of lawyers and judicial aid, etc.

We can mention also the medical problems suffered from the prisoner's example diabetes, blood pressure, arthritis, dermatology etc....

These samples require accelerated trials and the development of health and psychological care, despite the efforts of the Health Centers of the Health Department of the Internal Security Forces or the humanitarian associations.

In short, the prison problem in Lebanon goes beyond all that is said about it. The main problem is the absence of a government plan and a civilized modern project that transfers prisons from the traditional concept of a punitive institution to Rehabilitation, Educational, cultural and professional. Most prisons in the world are schools where graduate artists, painters and professionals.

Khiam Center, in spite of numerous observations in the establishment of the National Human Rights Commission, which includes the Committee for the Prevention of Torture, is an important step to protect human rights deprived of their freedom, visit places of detention and receive complaints, hoping that the Commission and the Committee will come to light.

Khiam is calling, the alarm bell sounded, calling on the government to give priority to the issue of prisons and to announce a legal and health emergency plan to comprehensively address this chronic issue.

We call the Human Right Council at his 39th session to call the Lebanese government to speed up on funding the NPM to have a role development and promoting Human Rights in Lebanon especially in prisons.